

What is claimed is:

1. A palatable, chewable controlled release pharmaceutical composition for oral administration to a companion animal comprising:

5 a therapeutically effective amount of a pharmaceutically active agent in controlled release multiparticulate form; and
a palatability improving agent in an amount sufficient to make the pharmaceutical composition palatable to said companion animal.

2. The composition of Claim 1 wherein said controlled release multiparticulate form has an average particle size of up to about 5000 μ m.

10 3. The composition of Claim 2 wherein said controlled release multiparticulate form has an average particle size of about 10 μ m to about 5000 μ m.

4. The composition of Claim 1 wherein said controlled release microparticulate form is a sustained release microparticulate form, a delayed release microparticulate form or a pulsatile release microparticulate form.

15 5. The composition of Claim 4 wherein said sustained release microparticulate form comprises particles coated with hydroxypropylmethyl cellulose, ethyl cellulose, Eudragit RL 100, Eudragit RS 100, mixtures of Eudragit RL 100/RS 100, Eudragit S100, Eudragit NE30D, cellulose acetate, cellulose acetate butyrate, silicone, ethylcellulose dispersions, or combinations thereof.

20 6. The composition of Claim 4 wherein said delayed release microparticulate form comprises particles coated with a pH sensitive material.

7. The composition of Claim 6 wherein said pH sensitive material is cellulose acetate phthalate, hydroxypropylmethyl cellulose phthalate, Eudragit L100-55, Eudragit S100 and mixtures of Eudragit L100-55/S100, or combinations thereof.

25 8. The composition of Claim 1 wherein said pharmaceutically active agent is selected from the group consisting of amebicides, trichomoacides, analgesics, anorexics, antiarthritics, antibacterials, antibiotics, anticoagulants, antidepressants, antihistamines, antieoplastics, anti-Parkinsonism drugs, antipyretics, antispasmodics, anticholinergics, antiviral agents, cardiovascular drugs, contraceptives, diuretics,
30 fertility agents hematinics, hormones, laxatives, parasympathetic agents, parasympathomimetics, psychostimulants, sedatives, sympathomimetics, anti-inflammatory agents, barbiturates, stimulants, tranquilizers and the like.

9. The composition of Claim 1 wherein said palatability improving agent is meat-derived, non-meat derived, fish-derived, non-fish derived, yeast, yeast hydrozalate or combinations thereof.

10. The composition of Claim 9 wherein said palatability improving agent is present in an amount of about 0.75% to about 50% by weight of said pharmaceutical composition.

11. The composition of Claim 9 wherein said palatability improving agent is present in an amount of about 1% to about 25% by weight of said pharmaceutical composition.

12. A palatable, chewable controlled release pharmaceutical composition for oral administration to a companion animal comprising:

a therapeutically effective amount of a pharmaceutically active agent in multiparticulate form comprising particles of said pharmaceutically active agent having an average particle size of up to about 5000 μ m, said particles being coated with hydroxypropylmethyl cellulose, ethyl cellulose, Eudragit RL100, Eudragit RS100, mixtures of Eudragit RL100/RS 100, Eudragit NE30D, cellulose acetate butyrate, silicone, ethylcellulose dispersions, or combinations thereof, cellulose acetate phthalate, hydroxypropylmethyl cellulose phthalate, Eudragit L100-55, Eudragit S100 and mixtures of Eudragit L100-55/S100, or combinations thereof, said coating being present in an amount of about 5% to about 100% by weight of said pharmaceutical composition; and

a palatability improving agent that is meat-derived, non-meat derived, fish-derived, non-fish derived, yeast or yeast hydrozalate, said palatability improving agent present in an amount of about 0.025% to about 99% by weight of said pharmaceutical composition.

13. The composition of Claim 12 wherein said pharmaceutically active agent comprises particles of an anti-inflammatory agent having an average particle size of about 100 μ m to about 1000 μ m, said coating present in an amount of about 10% to about 50% by weight of said pharmaceutical composition; and

said palatability improving agent is present in an amount of about 1% to about 5% by weight of said pharmaceutical composition.

14. The composition of Claim 12 wherein said NSAID is carprofen, and said coating is polymeric ethylcellulose or an acrylic polymer that is an anionic copolymer made from methacrylic acid and methacrylate.

15. The composition of Claim 1 wherein said pharmaceutical composition for oral administration is in a dosage form whose size and shape are suitable for poke down administration to a dog or cat.